

SUBSTITUTE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A cleaning device comprising:

a base material sheet; and
a fiber bundle comprising a large number of fibers aligned in a longitudinal direction thereof, and having a bundling portion connecting the fibers at a center portion thereof along a direction of extension crossing the longitudinal direction of the fibers, said bundling portion having edges extending generally parallel to said direction of extension,

wherein the fiber bundle is bonded to the base material sheet by means of an adhesive, and the fiber bundle comprises movable portions which have respectively different lengths between (1) respective fixed ends edges of the bundling portion and portions of the fibers bonded by the adhesive, and (2) between distal ends of the fibers in the longitudinal direction of the length of the fiber bundle thereof and in the direction of thickness thereof the portions of the fibers bonded by the adhesive.

2. (Previously Presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein the adhesive is provided between the base material sheet and the fiber bundle, and the adhesive is applied to the fibers at different permeation depths of the fiber bundle.

3. (Previously Presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein a plurality of spot-like bonding portions joining the base material sheet and the fiber bundle are provided along both sides opposite to the bundling portion.

4. (Previously Presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein a bonding portion joining the base material sheet and the fiber bundle is provided linearly along both sides opposite to the bundling portion.

5. (Previously Presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein the base material sheet has a plurality of strips provided along both sides opposite to the bundling portion.

6. (Currently Amended) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein the fiber bundle is comprised of a low degree fiber bundle composed of fibers having a low degree of thickness and a high degree fiber bundle composed of fibers having a high degree of thickness, the low degree fiber bundle and the high degree fiber bundle being stacked together.

7. – 14. (Canceled).

15. (Previously Presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein the adhesive is a hot melt type adhesive.

16. (Previously Presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein the adhesive contains a coloring agent.

17. (Previously Presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein the base material sheet has a handle mounting portion.

18. (Previously Presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein the fiber of the fiber bundle is a filament.

19. (Withdrawn) A process for producing a cleaning device, comprising:

aligning a large number of fibers which have fusibility, in a longitudinal direction of the fibers;

forming a fiber bundle of the fibers by fusing together substantially central portions of the fibers along a direction crossing the longitudinal direction of the fibers by fusing means;

stacking a base material sheet and the fiber bundle; and

bonding the fiber bundle to the base material sheet; and

forming movable portions which have respectively different lengths between fixed ends and distal ends of the fibers of the fiber bundle.

20. (Canceled).

21. (Withdrawn) A process for producing a cleaning device according to claim 19, wherein an adhesive is provided between the base material sheet and the fiber bundle, and wherein the adhesive is applied to the fibers of the fiber bundle at different permeation depths thereof.

22. (Withdrawn) A process for producing a cleaning device according to claim 19, wherein the base material sheet and the fiber bundle are joined by a plurality of spot-like bonding portions along both sides opposite to a bundling portion which connects the fibers together.

23. (Previously Presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein a brush sheet which has a plurality of bristle-like members is bonded to the fiber bundle at a bristle-like-member-less portion thereof by an adhesive.

24. (Previously Presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 23, wherein the bristle-like members of the brush sheet have respectively a width larger than a diameter of each of the fibers of the fiber bundle.

25. (Currently Amended) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein the movable portions provided between the ~~fixed ends~~ edges of the bundling portion and the distal ends of the fibers positioned adjacent to each other in the thickness direction of extension of the fiber bundle bundling portion have respectively different lengths in a discontinuous manner.

26. (Currently Amended) The cleaning device according to Claim 1, wherein the movable portions provided between the ~~fixed ends~~ edges of the bundling portion and the distal ends of the fibers positioned adjacent to each other in the thickness direction of extension of the fiber bundle bundling portion and in the length direction thereof have respectively different movable lengths.

27. (Previously presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 2, wherein the base material sheet and the fiber bundle are joined at a center portion in a longitudinal direction along the bundling portion, and are joined by a plurality of spot-like bonding portions along both sides opposite to the bundling portion.

28. (Previously presented) The cleaning device according to Claim 27, wherein the plurality of spot-bonding portions is arranged dispersedly.